

Come back here and give me a kiss. You never know if I'm gonna be here when you get back."

Well, Doris left us all in friendship, in love, and in peace.

She'll be missed, and she was a blessing to all who knew her.

And as the Irish Blessing goes, "Until we meet again, my old friend, may God hold you in the palm of his hand."

TRIBUTE TO FAIRHOPE MAYOR
JIM NIX

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fine gentleman, an outstanding public servant and a friend for more years than I can count, Mayor James P. Nix, of the city of Fairhope, Alabama.

As many of my colleagues know, Fairhope is one of the best-kept secrets in America. Situated along scenic Mobile Bay, Fairhope has a captivating charm and beauty that few communities—anywhere—can rival.

Moreover, because of the outstanding leadership provided by Mayor Nix over the past 30-plus years, Fairhope is one of the best managed cities in the entire United States.

This month, Jim's tenure as Mayor comes to an end. Despite pleas from hundreds of townspeople, he decided to not seek reelection in the recent municipal elections. For the first time in more than 32 years, Jim Nix's name was not on the ballot.

However, if anyone has deserved a rest from the call of duty, it is Mayor Nix. First elected to a 4-year term on the city council, Mayor Nix has presided over what is, without question, the 28 most prosperous years in the history of Fairhope.

While it is true that Baldwin County as a whole has experienced a tremendous amount of growth during the past several decades, Fairhope has certainly been a major part of this change. Under Jim Nix's leadership, Fairhope has become an important part of south Alabama's economic and cultural base. In addition, Fairhope draws tens of thousands of tourists each year to numerous festivals and shows. Quite frankly, this exposure has helped put the national spotlight on Fairhope, earning for it a positive reputation. Fairhope is, without question, a shining example of the best Alabama has to offer.

In addition to his numerous official duties, Mayor Nix has been actively involved in several professional and civic organizations and has served as president of both the Alabama League of Municipalities and the Baldwin County Mayor's Association. He is currently serving on the boards for several area banks and is a trustee for the University of South Alabama.

In the midst of his significant professional and civic involvement, Mayor Nix also found time to be a devoted husband, father and grandfather. Married to the former Anne Delorme Peele, Jim and Anne Nix are the proud parents of three, and the proud grandparents of nine. Speaking of Anne, I would be remiss if I did not salute her as well. She leaves behind a gracious, lasting legacy as a

true ambassador for Fairhope in her role as First Lady.

While Mayor Nix has certainly earned his retirement following so many years of dedicated service, he will certainly be missed by the many friends and colleagues he has made during his years in the city government.

On a personal note, while I will no longer have the privilege of working with Jim and Anne professionally, I look forward to the continuation of our friendship in the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire First Congressional District, I would like to express my appreciation to Mayor Jim Nix and my congratulations on his retirement.

HONORING BUSINESS TECH-
NOLOGIES AND SOLUTIONS, INC.

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Business Technologies and Solutions, Inc.'s (BTAS) of Beavercreek, Ohio, which is being honored at the Annual National Minority Enterprise Development Week in Arlington, Virginia.

As Representative of Ohio's 7th Congressional District, I am pleased to recognize Ms. Angela Vlahos, President of Business Technologies and Solutions, as her company receives the award for the Region V Minority Small Business Firm of the Year. BTAS has demonstrated outstanding success since it was established in 1992. Ms. Vlahos' commitment to providing quality business and enterprise solutions has allowed her company to experience rapid growth and enjoy more extensive contract opportunities with public and private companies, including Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio.

BTAS has trademarked its Right Solution Model which provides a framework for consistent delivery of high performance for each individual contract. This dedication to quality now is officially recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration and the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency.

Additionally, I wish to thank BTAS for its participation in our local community. The firm's contributions to the area, including information technology training for students of the Dayton School System and recreational activities for children at St. Joseph's Treatment Center, serve as a positive model for other local companies.

Mr. Speaker, I join the Small Business Administration and the Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency in recognizing the achievements of Ms. Angela Vlahos and Business Technologies and Solutions, Inc.

REMARKS OF KEVIN GOVER, DE-
PARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF IN-
DIAN AFFAIRS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Gover for extending a formal apology on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to Native Americans for the historical treatment by that agency. Mr. Gover recently delivered his remarks at the 175th Anniversary of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

In his remarks, Mr. Gover recounted the role of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in implementing the policies of the United States. For many years, the policies of the United States were designed to terminate tribal nations and their culture. Mr. Speaker, we share the responsibility for the historical treatment of Native Americans since the Bureau of Indian Affairs bears the responsibility of implementing the laws and policies of Congress.

While we cannot erase the deplorable history of Indian policy in the United States, I want to acknowledge that today the Bureau of Indian Affairs and its 10,000 employees are striving to be advocates for Indian people. I believe that Assistant Secretary Gover's profound and wise remarks will become an important document in the annals of American history. Mr. Speaker, I wish to share Mr. Gover's remarks with my colleagues.

REMARKS OF KEVIN GOVER, ASSISTANT SECRETARY—INDIAN AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AT THE CEREMONY ACKNOWLEDGING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS—SEPTEMBER 8, 2000

In March of 1824, President James Monroe established the Office of Indian Affairs in the Department of War. Its mission was to conduct the nation's business with regard to Indian affairs. We have come together today to mark the first 175 years of the institution now known as the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

It is appropriate that we do so in the first year of a new century and a new millennium, a time when our leaders are reflecting on what lies ahead and preparing for those challenges. Before looking ahead, though, this institution must first look back and reflect on what it has wrought and, by doing so, come to know that this is no occasion for celebration; rather it is time for reflection and contemplation, a time for sorrowful truths to be spoken, a time for contrition.

We must first reconcile ourselves to the fact that the works of this agency have at various times profoundly harmed the communities it was meant to serve. From the very beginning, the Office of Indian Affairs was an instrument by which the United States enforced its ambition against the Indian nations and Indian people who stood in its path. And so, the first mission of this institution was to execute the removal of the southeastern tribal nations. By threat, deceit, and force, these great tribal nations were made to march 1,000 miles to the west, leaving thousands of their old, their young and their infirm in hasty graves along the Trail of Tears.

As the nation looked to the West for more land, this agency participated in the ethnic cleansing that befell the western tribes. War